

As most of you remember, there was an event that occurred back in July of 2017. Most of us currently refer to the event as “The Server Hack”, while we are aware of the incident and the events surrounding the issue, there are things to take into consideration and would like to properly bring these up with the moderation team. However, in order to properly bring these up we would like to cover the full extent of the damage and what all has happened since then. This document will be focused on events that occurred without a biased point of view and shall be strictly informational. Conversation after this has all been read and discussed for clarification. With that said, let’s go ahead and cover the events of July 2017, and validate the events that occurred between October 14th through the 16th.

July 2017, at this point, some of the members of the Main FRC Discord (as it was titled at the time) were starting to find that things weren’t quite sitting right with most of us with the information that was being passed out since the beginning. Libby and Kazhra were moderators and the time, TPG was still active at this time, and Grace was most definitely not the server owner. However, the server owner was a shared account between ThePlasmaGuy (TPG) and Michael and they had mutually agreed to keep it that way. Events leading up to this point had frustrated Michael, as much as they did everyone else, and things needed to change however the team could not really agree with a lot of the points made.

In turn, Michael felt as though he was being betrayed for a server that he created. Thus something had to happen for people to begin to take Michael’s opinion into account as the server owner to attempt to make anything better which is understandable given the position. As events unfolded in the night of some date in July, the shared account between the two admins was publicly spoken as “hacked” and as far as anybody could immediately discern it was the account itself that had been hacked. The full story here is that the account was given over to a couple of people (names are not important, if they want to single themselves out they’re more than welcome to post that they had a part in it on the Discord Server - I would personally advise against ever saying anything) in order to attempt to have the moderation team understand that things have potential for getting better and mistakes were made but first they needed to be undone.

As the server is aware, some of the discussion about “change” from the poster who had temporary control of the Discord account was someone who was not Michael nor TPG. While things were going on, Austin (now Legit#0002) was running interference trying to see if there was any way to retrieve the account and keep TPG a little bit more calm (and that was my primary focus was keeping the other admin relaxed during this time, even though I had no idea what was going on personally). Messages were pouring between different users and moderators at the time, and things had generally begun to get out of hand. That night ended up with a few “demands” barely being met and some of the background discussion directed specifically towards myself was that the demands would be temporary and I was okay with that, they would soon be deleted after the account was recovered from the user requesting demands of the moderation team. The thing that people were unaware of is that around halfway through the “demands” being requested, Michael regretted the decision to attempt this and went back to the account and kicked the user of it back off. After the account was retrieved, I had asked Michael to appoint someone they trusted to the server owner that was not either TPG or Michael since it appears that the account was compromised while both of them were in control over it publicly. Both admins had a very lengthy discussion about who to pick. Michael had asked me for my 2¢ at the time and Mikal, CalTran,

Harrison, Devin, Endre, and Aryn had already expressed some kind of disinterest in this server at the time directly to me which I then had passed that information on to Michael and TPG prior to them coming to a decision to appoint Grace.

Some time came and went, and then October rolled around and Tim (Bell#6864) had openly gotten frustrated about the status of the moderation team at that time. During Tim's professional discussion about how the server was running and what the community would like to see come of it, Jack (ProjectGemini) had requested an opportunity to add input. When the discussion finally got to him, Jack had posted images of his conversation with Michael stating what had happened, resulting in "all hell to break loose" which is probably the most accurate way to describe it. Michael made an effort to respectfully stepped away from being an admin, which Grace and Libby had agreed upon to allow Michael time to recover from the past three years of work with this server now, as he states, "come crashing down around me in less than five minutes, and the responsible party was someone who had previously threatened me on multiple occasions".

Upon Michael's departure of the server after Jack released the photos, ModBot was then exploited to begin deleting channels as well as kicking members from the server. Immediately, the assumption had come from the moderation team that Michael was the one doing this since "he was the only one with access" when in fact he had opened up ModBot's eval command after it being requested which he had built into ModBot to admins on other servers, which means that anybody could have invited the bot and run some code and successfully completed this process, meaning he was not the only person who could have done this and as much guilt as he felt at the time I know for fact it is unreasonable to make that assumption. When discussing this later on, there were only a few people with access to doing this, two of which we had decided to be either Flo or Derek of the FTC server as those were the only active admins who had any access and any kind of knowledge of JavaScript code.

After working with Grace to learn about Discord's archival of the server, Grace (the now server owner) had to contact Discord in order for Discord to try to restore anything to the server. Discord fought for a little while on the topic, only to end up refusing to ever restore the server. The main focus of the attempted restoration of Discord was simply to try to get the channels back. Flo (Floms), was the main person to go to in order to restore the channels since this was a friend of Grace's that she trusted more than most. In order to identify this a source (who shall never be named) had discovered recently that there is a channel that is distinctly called "frc-discord-incident-discussion" which requires administrator permissions to view. Nothing can be confirmed about what is in the channel, all we can agree on is that there were only two users who had availability and some motives to do something about it. Quite frankly, there is no "proving" what happened so long as nobody has access to the chat, there's just simply "this is what happened, this is the information we know, this is how overreactions are created". There was also another channel titled "classified" which we have some screenshots related to it at as the last image in this document.

MY PERSONAL UNPROFESSIONAL COMMENTS ARE DOWN HERE, IF YOU DON'T WANT THEM - DON'T READ THEM! NOBODY IS STOPPING YOU FROM CLOSING THE WINDOW OR IGNORING ME OUTRIGHT.

To be very honest here, the stance that Grace took on this whole situation only makes Flo more suspicious since they had all of the channels somewhat ready to be recreated. Upon having a discussion with Grace, she absolutely refused to believe it was Flo since Flo said they had not said anything which doesn't make sense as to why they have screenshots of the channels if they weren't the ones to do it unless it was alongside other screenshots. Amongst everything, the belittling and bantering of the FIRST Robotics Competition community has got to stop. It WILL push sponsors, MCs, and others, not just someone like DeeJay (nice stream, it was done well, in case you're reading this) but FIRST Updates Now is a more suitable environment to be in overall regardless of what happens. They generally handle these situations a little bit better and have some ideas of how to handle things unlike what the moderation team (overall, no specific individuals for these instances since all of you represent the same team and are now acting like it which is progress in the least helpful way).

The moderation team of the FIRST Robotics Discord has always, and not always by choice, done subjective moderation against people they either dislike or that they expect to act better. After a certain point, it creates unwanted hostility within the community. Not only that, but the general comments in regards to people being called "homophobic" or "afraid" of some group or something, these baseless attacks need to stop from everyone regardless of comment. It not only creates a bad name for people but in person these people can get publicly attacked with comments like those. This community has not only overreacted but people have had others call the police on them, I'm almost impressed nobody has been "swatted" at this point. It's either time they figure out how to moderate and what to worry about or else I would highly advise stepping down and turning the server over to Libby and letting her become the owner the server until ThePlasmaGuy returns. Most of the moderators are getting better, but the admins seem to have this chip on their shoulder that people should be better than they are but that assumes that these administrators don't have issues of their own externally or in their own moderation discord server.

Look, we are currently putting people en masse into a server and expecting that every single one of them puts identifying information into the server for others to easily access and lookup. This information is destructive, not just to students or alumni or mentors, it's destructive to this server towards *FIRST*. Either way, after the recent toxicity between everyone involved regardless of their own personal stance on things there is absolutely no reason to have team numbers in your nickname except to create a "do not pick" list or else to encourage rather explicit language and generally a public way to identify persons that be. It's fine to run things as the rules provided by *FIRST*, but while on the internet, you need to define these things especially for those that have never been in *FIRST* Robotics before this server as well as the fact that the moderation team as individuals have now explicitly stated where minors live online, sure they put their team numbers as part of a rule but they have no idea what it is actually doing to them or for them. There is a legal issue with this at its core, which is posting where a minor (someone who is under the age of 18) is just through their team number. You ask, and I quote, ">1C: Do not post personal information at any time. This includes both your personal information as well as that of others.

Social media accounts can be shared *by their owners*, but we are not responsible for any results of these actions.” Which essentially says, “do not post any personal information, except for your team number so we can contact your head mentor at any time we so feel as though it’s fit”. I’m sorry, you’re only asking for people to publish even more personal information aside from describing where each person already exists down to the workshop regardless of posting any more personal information. From a security concern, this is outright ridiculous to ask and have represented in an unofficial server such that people can still get on a “do not pick” list just because of what all did or did not happen.

Personally, I will remain in the server, but now become mostly inactive so long as this moderation team exists as it stands. It is subjective, nit-picking, and very much recreating the toxic environment that sprald up on Chief Delphi in August 2017. As for trying to open up the community, bring back @magoes and if people don’t like the content being posted in there, remove their access to the role. It gives a place that makes a lot of the general toxicity that used to exist keep the community closer overall and not so stressed out. Sorry if your feelings get hurt, but life ruins feelings and as much as I would love for GP to exist in a workplace or on the internet in general *it doesn’t* and there’s an extent that we either need to recognize that and recognize how to remain mentally healthy or else we need to recognize that these systems are doing nothing more than cause problems within the community as a whole.

Please learn how to moderate and stop being ass holes OR decide that people can call each other offensive words and utilize language that is not at all GP without inflection or representation of how their team acts before something bad really happens to someone on the server.

Pictures are posted after this of the audit logs when things were starting to come back. There’s more out there, but this shit needs to fucking stop before someone’s career is actually ruined because of this server.

I tried to put everything onto this one PDF, but had troubles: <https://imgur.com/a/lvY3fjw>

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classified | guineawheel | yeet
classified | Floms | k
classified | Floms | Idk if you saw, but they just announced a fall RL collegiate season

classified | Floms | I get 5000$ scholarship if I win
classified | Floms | Don't take anything personally btw - if people are unhappy then it's

classified | Floms | Root issue is still the same though
classified | Floms | Uhhh sure
classified | Ben | Sounds reasonable
classified | Floms | He seems reasonable
classified | guineawheel | ban him
classified | Ben | Also to be clear
classified | guineawheel | he IS NOT the hacker
classified | Ben | He's not the one who hacked the FRC server lol
classified | Ben | Then he's getting banned lol
classified | guineawheel | that's the same griffin
classified | Ben | Not worth the eternal piles of bullshit
classified | Ben | Fuck
classified | Ben | Ban?
classified | Ben | I don't care if he wouldn't say it to my face
classified

classified | guineawheel | he wouldn't say it to his face
classified | guineawheel | i think he just needed a reminder of his boundaries
classified | Floms | @derek - 5484 [dabmin] did you ever look at my code
classified | Floms | I still cant figure out the damn velocity bug
classified | Ben | No
classified | Ben | Lol
classified | Ben | I'm done satisfying jack and that crowd with stupid shit
classified | Ben | If Derek wants to, I guess I'm overruled
classified | Ben | But still
classified | Floms | K sent out messages
classified | Ben | There's like super dumb permissions that I'm having to fix on some of the

classified | Ben | Btw
classified | Floms | He's from kentocuky
classified | Floms | Iirc
classified | Ben |
classified | Floms | That seems like a good idea
classified | Floms | Can one of you two talk to him
entropy | Valentin | https://www.ksl.com/classifieds/listing/45610668
classified | Ben | Someone posted on the FRC Discord today
classified | Ben | Yup
classified | Ben | Reminds me of Jack and Sean tbh
classified | guineawheel | during the minimod incident eventually sean was telling moseph to

classified | Floms | Why
classified | Ben | Not true
classified | Floms | For Utah he removed a minubot because the battery was dieing too fast
classified | Ben | The real question is why Jack/iTurtle and co had read perms
classified | Floms | At the most basic level people are frustrated with how the server is run
classified | guineawheel | there was some other things stuck in the dynamic
classified | Ben | @Flo - 5667 Alum / FRC 125 can I give him a role?
classified | Ben | @Flo - 5667 Alum / FRC 125 @derek - 5484 [dabmin] https://www.chiefdelphi.c

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